

## **CHAPTER 6**

### **CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION**

#### **6.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION**

An environmental assessment (EA) must be prepared when a federal government agency considers approving an action within its jurisdiction that may impact the human environment. An EA aids federal officials in making decisions by presenting information on the physical, biological, and social environment of a proposed project and its alternatives. The first step in preparing an EA is to determine the scope of the project, the range of action alternatives, and the impacts to be included in the document.

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR, Parts 1500-1508) require an early scoping process to determine the issues related to the proposed action and alternatives that the EA should address. The purpose of the scoping process is to identify important issues, concerns, and potential impacts that require analysis in the EA and to eliminate insignificant issues and alternatives from detailed analysis.

The Copper Ridge Shallow Gas Project EA was prepared by a third party contractor working under the direction of and in cooperation with the lead agency for the project, which is the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Rock Springs Field Office, Rock Springs, Wyoming.

#### **6.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A Scoping Notice was prepared and submitted to the public by the BLM on November 15, 2002 requesting input into the proposed Copper Ridge project. Scoping documents were sent out to the public listed on the BLM mailing list, as well as organizations, groups, and individuals requesting a copy of the scoping document.

There were nine written responses received during the scoping period in response to this project. These written responses did not state a position in regard to the project but provided suggested mitigation if the project were implemented. The issues and concerns identified by the public during the scoping period are summarized in Chapter 1.

During preparation of the EA, the BLM and the consultant interdisciplinary team (IDT) have communicated with, and received or solicited input from various federal, State, county, and local agencies, elected representatives, environmental and citizens groups, industries, and individuals potentially concerned with issues regarding the proposed drilling action. The contacts made are summarized in the following sections.

The following organizations/individuals either provided comment or were provided the opportunity to comment during the scoping period.

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### **FEDERAL AGENCIES**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,  
Region 8  
U.S. Senator Michael B. Enzi

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
U.S. Representative Barbara Cubin  
U.S. Senator Craig Thomas

### **STATE AGENCIES**

Governor, Dave Freudenthal  
State Representatives  
Wyoming Department of Transportation  
Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission  
Wyoming Department of Environmental  
Quality

State Senators  
Wyoming Office of Federal Land Policy  
Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office

### **COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

Sweetwater County Commissioners

Sweetwater County Planner

### **MUNICIPALITIES**

Mayor of Rock Springs  
Mayor of Superior

Mayor of Green River  
Postmaster of Farson

### **NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES**

Eastern Shoshone National  
Northern Ute Cultural Committee  
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes

Northern Arapaho Business  
Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Office

### **LOCAL MEDIA**

A press release was sent to local media.

### **LANDOWNERS, INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES, AND GRAZING PERMITTEES**

This scoping notice has been sent to known property owners, industry representatives, and grazing permittees that would be affected by this project.

### **PUBLIC LAND USERS AND USER GROUPS**

National Wildlife Federation  
Oregon/California Trails Association  
Southwest Wyoming Industrial Association  
People for the West  
Independent Petroleum Assoc. of Mountain States  
Petroleum Association of Wyoming  
Sierra Club Northern Plains Representative  
Sierra Club – Wyoming Chapter

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation  
Rock Springs Grazing Assoc.  
Biodiversity Conservation Alliance  
The Wilderness Society  
The Nature Conservancy  
Trout Unlimited  
Western Mule Deer Foundation  
Wyoming Outdoor Council

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Environmental Defense Fund

Wyoming Public Lands Council

### 6.2 LIST OF PREPARERS

The following tables identify the core BLM IDT (Table 5-1) and the consultant IDT (Table 5-2) that were principally involved with preparing this EA.

**Table 6-1. List of BLM Interdisciplinary Reviewers**

Name	Responsibility
<b>ROCK SPRINGS FIELD OFFICE</b>	
Teri Deakins	Project Manager
John MacDonald	Soils/Pipeline construction/reclamation
Susan Davis	Petroleum Engineer
Jim Dunder	Wildlife/T & E Issues
Kevin Lloyd	Range Management Specialist – Wild Horses
Jim Glennon	Zone Botanist
Terry A. Del Bene	Cultural Resources
Jo Foster	Recreation
Jennifer Bates	Realty
Dennis Doncaster	Hydrology/Water Quality
Dave Chase	Petroleum Engineer
Sherry Blackburn	Geology
Lance Brady	GIS
Ted Murphy	Acting Field Manager
Bernie Weynand	Acting Field Manager - Resources
<b>WYOMING STATE OFFICE</b>	
Susan Caplan	Air Quality
Dale Hanson	Paleontologist
<b>State of Wyoming</b>	
Darla Potter	Visibility, Smoke Mgt., EIS Coordinator

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**Table 6-2. List of Consultant Interdisciplinary Team EA Preparers**

Principal Interdisciplinary Team		
Name	Affiliation	Responsibility
Gary Holsan	Gary Holsan Environmental Planning	Interdisciplinary Team Leader, Project Manager
Doug Henderer	Buys and Associates	Air Quality
Jan Yerkovich	Western Archaeological Services	Cultural Resources
Charles Bucans, P.E.	Star Valley Engineering	Editor/Writer
Larry Bennett	Hayden-Wing Associates	Vegetation, Wetlands, Wild Horses
Larry Hayden-Wing	Hayden-Wing Associates	Wildlife, T,E, & S Species
Gus Winterfeld	Erathem Vanir Geological	Geology, Soils, Paleontology
Mike Evers	WWC Engineering	Water Quality
George Blankenship	Blankenship Associates	Recreation, Visual, Socioeconomics, Safety, Transportation, Noise